

REMARKS

This application, filed August 20, 2003, is a divisional of U.S. patent application No. 09/368,680. In the Preliminary Amendment filed with the divisional application, the applicant inadvertently filed a clean copy of the claims as they were to be amended, rather than the mark-up copy showing the additions and deletions. Therefore, the applicant now submits the mark-up copy and requests that the claims be amended as shown above.

As argued in the original Preliminary Amendment, the applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 5, 7, 18, 19, 26 and 27, together with the remaining claims respectively dependent thereon, are patentably distinct from the prior art of record in the parent application for the same reasons as the allowed claims in the parent application.

The applicant respectfully submits that this application, with claims 5-8, 18, 19 and 26-30, is in condition for allowance and prompt issuance of a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or to credit any overpayment, due by reason of this Supplemental Preliminary Amendment to Deposit Account No. 01-0035.

Respectfully submitted,
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